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*Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly*

# Ecomedia
BULLETIN

ECOMEDIA c/o P.O. Box 915 Station F Toronto Ontario, M4Y 2N9

ANARCHISM IS FOR LESBIAN AND GAY PEOPLE

# West Germany Silences Feminists

Over 200 gunwielding West German cops last December 18 conducted simultaneous raids on 33 addresses of feminist activists, forcing their way into women's homes, private work places and research/archive centres. 23 women were detained at police centres where they were photographed, fingerprinted, questioned and in some cases strip-searched before being released. Two were not released: Ulla Penselin and Ingrid Strobl remain confined under a program of "special regulation for political prisoners" which incorporates severe repression and isolation, also known as "white torture," which the state can inflict even though they have not yet been tried. The cops' only evidence is Ulla's "conspiratorial meetings" in cafes and Ingrid's purchase of a clock in 1986, which they claim has been linked to the exploed clock shrapnel found at the site of a sabotage attack on Lufthansa Airlines, which was done to protest the forcible deportation of some women seeking asylum in Germany. Defense groups are calling for their freedom, and for international publicity and support on their behalf.

The two women are charged with membership in "Rote Zora," a feminist women's guerilla network which the December 18th raids were an attempt to destroy. Police are annoyed by an increase in sabotage actions, often with victorious results, by Rote Zora over the last two or three years, and by an increase in public awareness and sympathy for the women guerrillas' demands for justice. Instead of creating suspicion among the public and fear among the feminists as the police had hoped, the raids have generated a great solidarit y among radical activists who perceive the harrassment to

(cont. pg 2)

FREE TRADE

## The Rich get Richer

### The Poor get Shopping Malls

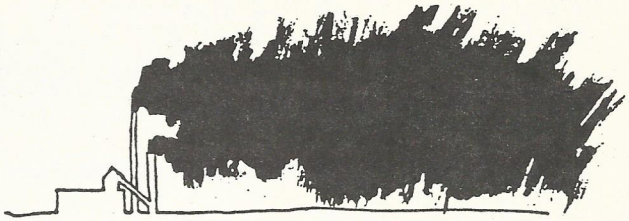
Why is Canada's business community so anxious to push through the Reagan-Mulroney annexation pact, known erroneously in the media as a "free trade" pact? Part of the answer lies in Canadian developer Robert Campeau's recent takeover of Federated Department Stores' empire of over 600 U.S. stores for $6.6 billion, the biggest takeover in history not involving oil companies. The USA is on the verge of passing legislation making such foreign takeovers in the States illegal (though its own companies do the same thing abroad regularly), and only by agreeing to the annexation pact can Canada be exempt. A decade after a Liberal government arranged for Campeau to become a multimillionaire at the taxpayers' expense, a Conservative government is giving away whatever is left of Canada's independence so that Campeau and others like him can further enrich themselves in the U.S. market.

(cont. Pg 4)

# Toxic Cloud

Despite widespread public opposition and dangers to public health, Ottawa-Carleton regional council is considering plans to dispose of waste material by incineration and increased landfill.

The preferred site for an incinerator is site 19, within the cities of Ottawa and Gloucester. The Ottawa Carleton Health Unit maintains that the site "is in the extreme Southeast end of the city where emissions would not NORMALLY be a problem because of prevailing winds." No matter the height of the stacks, dioxins, lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic, carbon monoxide and hydro-chloric acid escape from garbage incinerators. All of those compounds are proven carcinogens; lead in particular causes irreversible brain damage. Despite efforts of Ontario pollution regulations (particularly regulation 308) to specify air quality criteria and standards for the province, there is no safe level of dioxin discharge for any of these carcinogens. Moreover, incinerators produce non-combustible, highly toxic garbage (slag), and if the site is not properly built the toxins will seep through to the ground water supply or be



blown by the wind. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has classified slag as a hazardous waste to be placed in a concrete walled, monitored landfill.

There are two prefered additional landfill sites, both presently used largely for agriculture. One (site 3) is situated one concession south of the existing Trail Road site, and opposition to this site is particularly strong because the area residents have observed the effects of using that site for landfill: "Trail Road site is close to site 3 and has demonstrated serious, and unresolved problems of water contamination; site 3 exhibits characteristics similar to Trail Road;...the site is drained by the Baxter and Scobie branches of Mud Creek; the Mud Creek drain provides a natural watercourse for leachate to contaminate the downstream farms and the Rideau River;...Use of site 3 appears to 'contravene' the Regional Offical plan and guidelines of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food..." Use of the other site also raises problems of potential contamination of limited water supply, agriculture etc.

A better alternative is recycling, and the council is considering a reduction/recycling plan which would increase from 14% to 34% over the next 15 years. Unfortunately, largescale recycling programs are likely to face major companies from mining to mass production with possible closure as the need for raw material would diminish. How easily will they give this up?

*—condensed from Outaouais Outrage #5*

**Armchair**
**Intellectuals;**
**they're living laxatives**
**who cleverly pass**
**volumes of gas**
**across teeth**

***—Mendelson Joe***

## West Germany *(from pg 1)*

be directed in spirit against all of them.

Rote Zora have been operating since the mid 70s, and in union with the Revolutionary Cells have carried out 250 attacks, all within the context of current political affairs. Direct Action strategy confronted issues of militarizations, nuclear technology, Palestine, South Africa, refugee asylum solidarity and human genetics. During 1987, to support the long and painful efforts of South Korean women striking for better conditions in German-owned textile factories, RZ launched a series of attacks against eight stores of Alder Co. Only then did the owners finally capitulate and rehire the women, raise the salaries, and meet all their demands. This success invoked the wrath of the government and created an urge for retaliation.

For more information, and the addresses of the women in prison, write this newsletter. Please be sure to ask for info on the attacks on the West German feminist movement.

# SUMMER CONFERENCES

**WHILE THE 'SEVEN DWARFS' HOLD THEIR ECONOMIC SUMMIT...** An International Congress on Uranium Mining will be held in Saskatoon with a strong focus on alternative futures. Areas explored will include international, educational, cultural, research and political aspects of, and responses to uranium mining. *Information: Program Committee, 2138 McIntyre St., Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 2R7*

The Seventh Assembly of the Fourth World Congress will be held July 31 - August 4 in Raleigh, North Carolina. Emphasis is on creating "a world of thousands of small nations, each having localized forms of economic and political management." $130 all-inclusive. *Write: School of Living, 7th Assembly, 3030 Sleepy Hollow Road, Falls Church, Virginia, USA 22042.*

The third North American Bioregional Conference will be held August 21 - September 6 in the Ish River Bioregion north of Vancouver. Emphasis will be on cultural identity of each bioregion. *For registration package write: NABC 3, Box 1012, Lilloet B.C., V0K 1V0*

Designed to represent peoples' as opposed to Corporations' interests, is the Popular Summit being held in Toronto to coincide with the Group of Seven Economic Summit. June 9-12 is the War Crimes Tribunal at which members of the "Official Terror Network" are to be 'prosectued', June 17-19 is the Popular Summit Conference which will feature international speakers, workshops and plenaries on food, development and alternative economics. *Information: P.O. Box 111, Stn. C, Toronto, M6J 3M7, or call 921-9730 or 537-3520*

And, of course, most importantly, there's the 3rd annual North American continental Anarchist Survival Gathering, this year being held in Toronto July 1-4. There'll be workshops held on a variety of topics, networking, lots of music and a day of action. *Information: A Survival Gathering: An Anarchist Unconvention, P.O. Box 435, Stn. P, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2S9 or call (416) 536-2514.* Keep an eye on the Ecomedia Bulletin for upcoming information on the Survival Gathering.

# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## Is It All a Front?

In Belgium over the last five years, the *Fighting Communist Cells* have attempted attacks on NATO bunkers, offices and oil pipelines; neo-Nazis have stolen NATO documents; special rifles were stolen from the barracks of the anti-terror brigade of the federal police force in 1981; 16 people were killed and little money was stolen during armed supermarket robberies in three Belgian cities in 1985; Juan Mendez, president of a large Belgian weapons manufacturing firm, was murdered in 1987. Over the last month it has become apparent that all these so far unsolved incidents may have been committed by the same group of people - to which belonged several of the officials in charge of solving the crimes.

The officials involved range from federal cops to officials in the attorney general's office to members of the Internal Securities Service, the Belgian equivalent of the CSIS. The special rifles were found in garages rented by former federal cop Bouhouche. The rent was paid by the Internal Securities Service. These weapons were used in the supermarket attacks. The gun used to kill Juan Mendez was found in a pot of frozen spaghetti sauce in the fridge of Bouhouche. Bouhouche's friend Christian Amory was, for a while, in charge of the supermarket attack investigations.

A former accomplice of Bouhouche, and former federal police officer, named Robert Beyer revealed some of these things after he gave himself up to police. He was wanted in the Mendez killing. Beyer claims that he stopped his involvement with Bouhouche because of the latter's extreme right-wing views and contacts.

The mainstream media conjectures that a group of rightwing extremists have been the moving force behind all of the aforementioned activities, with the intention of increasing the threat of what is known as "terrorism" and thereby justifying an increase in the size and the powers of the police forces. It is a questionable theory that the *Fighting Communist Cells* is a neo-fascist front group, but it *is* something to think about as the state has been known to do this kind of thing before.

## *The Rich Get Richer* (cont. from 1)

Twenty years after he started out as a small builder in Ottawa, Campeau's construction company by 1969 had built about 11,000 houses and owned about 3,000 acres of development land around Ottawa, as well as properties in Montreal and Toronto. Charlotte Whitton, the last Ottawa mayor to oppose unbridled development, called his structures "the kind of houses which justify nuclear bombing." By recruiting his staff and board of directors from Liberal politicians and their associates in the private sector, Campeau obtained the political influence needed to have zoning regulations and height restrictions set aside so that he could build two monstrously ugly complexes, the Place de Ville in downtown Ottawa and later Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere in downtown Hull, and lease space in them to Ottawa's ever-expanding civil service. Les Terrasses cost Canadian taxpapers at least $l billion; it needn't have been built at all since filling it with civil servants required emptying other buildings where the feds leased space; if it had to be built, the feds could have saved $400 million by building the thing themselves instead of making guarantees to Campeau. This $l billion doesn't include the cost to individuals who lost their homes and small businesses when Campeau took over much of downtown Hull, or to the health of civil servants forced to work in formaldehyde-laden air. (The whole sordid story of the Terrasses deal is documented in: Deachman and Woolfrey—The Marriage of State and Capital Ottawa Style, in Our Generation v. 14 n. 3.)

The Trudeau government's generosity to Campeau was apparently motivated in part by a desire to help a bilingual, Ottawa-based corporation share in the spoils of investment on a multi-national level. The same banks who are putting the squeeze on third world countries have no hesitancy in providing developers with capital to generate profits through speculation on land and through rental revenues, which the corporations find more profitable than constructing buildings. The older, Toronto-based corporations resented an Ottawa challenge to their oligopoly and warded off Campeau's takeover raid for Royal Trust despite federal intervention on his behalf. Campeau nonetheless moved his headquarters to Toronto, but turned his attention to the USA, where he was recently quoted as saying he prefers to do business. Meanwhile back in Ottawa, the failure of many of the stores which tried to locate in the Terrasses complex didn't deter Ottawa from setting up another huge unneeded retailing complex, the Rideau Centre, pushed for by mayor Marian Dewar, now a leading NDP spokesperson.

The money Campeau sucked from the people of Ottawa-Hull and the Canadian taxpayers financed profitable development projects in the U.S. southwest, which in turn made the Federated takeover possible. Far from sharing in the profits of this and similar transnational deals, the people of Canada lose out as homes and small businesses are destroyed to make way for plastic shopping centres and their plastic merchandise. Since only chain stores can afford to locate in the new complexes, we now have the same standardized goods in every downtown shopping centre and suburban mall across Canada. Campeau is now threatening to expand Bloomingdale's to Ottawa and Montreal, facing the nation's capital with the propsect of a third ugly monument to his success in assembling Canadian funds to spend south of the border.

## Not-So-Accidental Death of an Anarchist

In Barcelona, Spain, ten years after the murder of anarchist prisoner Augustin Rueda, the governor of the prison, his deputy, and seven guards and medical staff were found guilty of the crimeand sentenced to jail terms ranging from one to ten years. Agustin was tortured to death March 13, 1978 (after Franco's death.) inCarabanchel prison. At the beginning of the trial, a forensic scientist testified that Agustin had suffered a *"prolonged, intensive and technical beating"* which resulted in his death. As the trial of the murderers of Agustin Rueda was coming to an end, there was a demonstration in Barcelona in remembrance of his death, and protesting the continuing repression and torture in the prisons. The demonstration began at 9 pm and the march led off with 800-1000 people, mainly anarchists. As they proceeded, there were no cops anywhere, so being the good exponents of direct action that they are, they began to graffiti the shops and banks along the route. As the march neared the court buildings, there was still no sign of police and the demonstrators had to stand back while paint bombs and stones flew at the court house. The demo gradually ended, only to continue on a smaller scale in an older part of Barcelona. The activists smashed up banks and government buildings and ended the demo without people being arrested.

*(Ecomedia Barcleona)*